# **Technical Procedure for Clandestine Laboratory Analysis**

Version 7

**Effective Date: 05/15/2015** 

- **1.0 Purpose -** To provide the Clandestine Laboratory Certified Forensic Scientist with a general guideline of how to process evidence from a suspected clandestine laboratory site once he/she has returned to the State Crime Laboratory.
- **Scope -** This procedure applies to Clandestine Laboratory Certified Forensic Scientists in the Drug Chemistry Sections of the State Crime Laboratory.

### 3.0 Definitions

- Clandestine Laboratory an illicit operation consisting of a sufficient combination of apparatus and chemicals that either has been or could be used in the manufacture or synthesis of controlled substances.
- **4.0 Equipment, Materials and Reagents -** See Section technical procedures as needed.

### 5.0 Procedure

- 5.1 Standards and Controls N/A
- 5.2 Calibrations N/A
- **Sampling -** See the Drug Chemistry Section Administrative Procedure for Sampling and the Drug Chemistry Section Technical Procedure for Drug Analysis.

### 5.4 Evidence Handling and Paperwork

- **5.4.1** Samples are brought back to the State Crime Laboratory in the custody of the responding Forensic Scientist who processed the clandestine laboratory site.
- **5.4.2** The responding Forensic Scientist will ensure that all items of evidence are sealed, labeled, and placed in a secure storage locker upon his/her return to the Laboratory.
- 5.4.3 Upon return from a clandestine laboratory site, the responding Forensic Scientist will complete the Request for Examination Form and the Short Technical Field Assistance (TFA) form and submit to the Evidence Control Section by the end of the next business day after his/her return to the State Crime Laboratory.
- **5.4.4** This serves to give the case a Laboratory Identification Number and to initiate the chain of custody for the evidence in the FA System.
- 5.4.5 As soon as the case has been given a Laboratory Identification Number, this number shall be documented on all items of evidence.
- **5.4.6** Within 48 hours of his/her return to the Laboratory, the Forensic Scientist shall provide a copy of his/her field notes (or a typed inventory) to the SBI Site Safety Officer and the requesting officer.

### 5.5 Clandestine Laboratory Cases in the FA System

- **5.5.1** Field notes and Laboratory analysis notes shall be compiled into two different case records in the FA System.
- **5.5.2** The field notes FA case record shall include:
  - **5.5.2.1** Clandestine Laboratory Response Form (see Section files for printable version).
  - **5.5.2.2** A copy of the responding Forensic Scientist's handwritten field notes (or typed inventory) from the clandestine laboratory site.
  - **5.5.2.3** Short and Long Technical Field Assistance (TFA) form.
    - **5.5.2.3.1** Note: the Short TFA shall be scanned into the RFLE for the FA case record.

Version 7

**Effective Date: 05/15/2015** 

- **5.5.2.3.2** Note: the Long TFA is generated in the FA System and serves as an official report listing the various substances found/seized/destroyed at the clandestine laboratory site.
- **5.5.2.4** Any clandestine laboratory site photographs taken by the responding Forensic Scientist.
- **5.5.2.5** Percent yield calculations pertaining to (pseudo)ephedrine packaging found and identified at the scene.
- **5.5.2.6** A copy of the responding Forensic Scientist's Curriculum Vitae (CV) or Statement of Qualifications.
- **5.5.2.7** Copies of any administrative documents (e.g., e-mails/communication logs to other officers involved in the investigation, court documents, etc.)
- **5.5.3** The Laboratory analysis FA case record shall include:
  - **5.5.3.1** Request for Examination Form as completed by the responding Forensic Scientist.
    - **5.5.3.1.1** Note: the Request for Examination Form shall be scanned into the RFLE for the case record.
  - 5.5.3.2 Any and all data pertaining to the Laboratory analysis of items seized from the clandestine laboratory site for processing at the Laboratory.
  - **5.5.3.3** A copy of the responding Forensic Scientist's Curriculum Vitae (CV) or Statement of Qualifications.
  - **5.5.3.4** Copies of any administrative documents.
  - **5.5.3.5** Percent yield calculations pertaining to (pseudo)ephedrine collected from the scene and identified at the laboratory.

**5.5.4** Clandestine Laboratory Case Files shall be reviewed by the Forensic Scientist Manager or his/her designee.

Version 7

**Effective Date: 05/15/2015** 

## 5.6 Analysis of Clandestine Laboratory Evidence

- **5.6.1** Based on his/her training and experience, a Forensic Scientist shall select samples to analyze, keeping in mind that items of evidence containing the critical components to demonstrate fully the manufacture or intent to manufacture a controlled substance shall be worked.
  - **5.6.1.1** In addition to the controlled substance, precursor and essential chemicals shall be identified when possible.

### **5.6.2** Solid Materials and Powders

- **5.6.2.1** Solid materials and powders shall be sampled and analyzed according to the Drug Chemistry Section Technical Procedure for Drug Chemistry Analysis and in accordance with the Drug Chemistry Section Administrative Procedure for Sampling.
- **5.6.2.2** Solids and powders that are likely inorganic in composition (example: iodine and phosphorus) shall be transferred to the Trace Evidence Section of the Laboratory for identification.
  - 5.6.2.2.1 In cases where the item of evidence is from a suspected red phosphorus/iodine methamphetamine lab and the substance appears to be reaction material, the Forensic Scientist shall analyze a portion of the material to determine if methamphetamine and/or (pseudo)ephedrine are also present and send a subsequent untested portion of the material to the Trace Evidence Section for elemental analysis, when sample size allows.
    - A sub-item shall be created for the portion of the material being transferred to the Trace Evidence Section for analysis and all evidence transfers shall be recorded in the FA System.
  - 5.6.2.2.2 In cases where phosphorus is identified in an item of evidence, the Forensic Scientist shall document the color of the item in the FA worksheet.

#### 5.6.3 Liquid Samples

- **5.6.3.1** The pH of liquid samples prior to analysis and total volume of liquid found at the clandestine laboratory site shall be recorded in the FA worksheet.
- **5.6.3.2** If bi-layered or multi-layered liquids are present, each layer will be sampled and analyzed separately. The Forensic Scientist shall thoroughly document the physical appearance of each layer as well as the location of each layer relative to others.

- **5.6.3.3** If the total volume of liquid was seized, the net weight shall be determined prior to analysis and reported with applicable measurement assurance.
- **5.6.3.4** If the total volume of liquid was not seized at the site, the density of analyzed liquid samples shall be determined in order to calculate the total weight of liquid present at the clandestine laboratory site. Measurement assurance data is not required since reported weights are truncated to the whole number.
  - 5.6.3.4.1 The total volume of the original liquid found at the crime scene is required with submission information in order for a weight calculation of the original liquid to be reported. The following statement shall be included in the results:
    - 5.6.3.4.1.1 "Based on the total volume of the original liquid reported on the Request for Examination, Item X contained XX grams(s) of liquid containing XX -Schedule X." Example: Total volume of liquid at the clandestine laboratory site = 250 mL. A 3.00 mL sample of the liquid was placed on the balance upon return to the lab, resulting in a mass of 2.60 grams. The chemical analysis of the liquid revealed methamphetamine. What is the weight of the liquid containing methamphetamine found at the site?

```
\begin{array}{l} Density = mass/volume \\ = 2.60 \text{ g/3.00 mL} \\ = 0.86 \text{ g/mL} \end{array} Therefore, 0.86 \text{ g/mL} \quad \text{x} \quad 250 \text{ mL} = 215 \text{ g of liquid containing methamphetamine} \end{array}
```

Version 7

**Effective Date: 05/15/2015** 

5.6.3.5 The miscibility of liquid samples shall be determined using either water or a water insoluble solvent such as chloroform or hexane and recorded in the FA worksheet.

### 5.7 Technical Field Assistance (TFA) Reports

- 5.7.1 The TFA report (Long Form TFA generated in the FA System) shall describe the clandestine laboratory site searched, the date and time of the search, who was present at the clandestine laboratory site, and list the chemicals and equipment found at the clandestine laboratory site that are consistent with the manufacture of a controlled substance.
- **5.7.2** A qualifying statement about each item, where applicable, shall be included along with that item's regulatory status.
- **5.7.3** Items seized for Laboratory analysis shall be labeled as such including the corresponding Laboratory item number (in bold type font).

- 5.7.4 For items of (pseudo)ephedrine, the <u>total</u> grams or milligrams of (pseudo)ephedrine shall be listed after each container or unit described, based upon the total number of tablets and the strength of each tablet.
  - **5.7.4.1** Example:

Sudafed 12-hr Extended Release One box (intact) containing a total of 20 tablets Pseudoephedrine HCl, 120 mg per tablet 2.4 g (2400 mg) pseudoephedrine HCl total

- **5.7.5** A "Summary" section shall be added to the TFA report and include the following:
  - **5.7.5.1** The method of manufacture of the controlled substance and precursor chemicals if applicable.
  - 5.7.5.2 The <u>total</u> grams of (pseudo)ephedrine present at the clandestine laboratory site shall be listed along with the <u>total</u> grams of methamphetamine that could be produced based on a 100 % yield (see Section Files for Printable versions).
    - **5.7.5.2.1** 100 % theoretical yield calculation for methamphetamine (meth) HCl from (pseudo)ephedrine(PSE) HCl

Molecular weight of (pseudo)ephedrine HCl = 201.7 g/mol Molecular weight of methamphetamine HCl = 185.7 g/mol

Version 7

**Effective Date: 05/15/2015** 

201.7 g/mol PSE HCl = 185.7 g/mol methamphetamine HCl # g PSE HCl at Site X g of methamphetamine HCl

X g of meth HCl = (#g PSE HCl at site)(185.7 g/mol meth HCl)201.7 g /mol PSE HCl

- 5.7.5.2.2 The Forensic Scientist shall clearly differentiate when calculating percent yield between items involving pseudoephedrine HCl versus pseudoephedrine sulfate.
- **5.7.5.2.3** 100 % theoretical yield calculation for methamphetamine (meth) HCl from (pseudo)ephedrine (PSE) sulfate

molecular weight of PSE  $SO_4 =$  1 mol PSE  $SO_4 =$  2 mol meth HCl molecular weight PSE HCl = 201.7 g/mol 1 mol PSE HCl = 1 mol meth HCl molecular weight of meth HCl = 185.7 g/mol

 $\frac{428.5 \text{ g/mol PSE SO}_4}{\text{# g PSE SO}_4 \text{ at Site}} = \frac{\text{(2 mol meth HCl)}}{\text{1 mol PSE SO}_4} \times \frac{185.7 \text{ g/mol meth HCl}}{\text{X g of meth HCl}}$ 

Xg of meth  $HCl = (\#g (pseudo) SO_4 at site)(2 mol meth <math>HCl/1 mol (PSE SO_4)(185.7 g/mol meth <math>HCl$ 

428.5 g/mol (pseudo)ephedrine SO<sub>4</sub>

5.7.6 A "Seizure of Evidence" section shall be added to the TFA report and shall include the numbers of Laboratory item(s) seized for analysis, the location of the State Crime Laboratory at which the evidence is being processed, and the Laboratory case number.

Version 7

**Effective Date: 05/15/2015** 

5.7.7 A "Hazardous Waste" section shall be added at the end of the Long TFA report and shall include the date and disposition of the chemicals and equipment not seized for evidence during the clandestine laboratory site search.

### 5.8 Return and/or Destruction of Clandestine Laboratory Evidence

- **5.8.1** Solids and powders (with the exception of reaction material, red phosphorus, and iodine crystals) shall be returned to the requesting agency.
- **5.8.2** Liquid samples shall be retained for sixty days after the date the report is released if no other disposition is requested by the requesting agency. After the sixty day period these samples shall be destroyed, pursuant to the search warrant from the site search.
  - **5.8.2.1** The Forensic Scientist shall complete the Destruction Verification Form and scan a signed copy into the Case Record Object Repository in the FA System. (See Section Files for Printable version.)
  - **5.8.2.2** Evidence shall be destroyed according to the State Crime Laboratory Hazardous Waste Management Program as outlined in the State Crime Laboratory Safety Manual.
    - **5.8.2.2.1** The Forensic Scientist shall coordinate his/her schedule with the Drug Chemistry Section Safety Officer for the collection of samples to be destroyed.
- 5.8.3 Technical Field Assistance (Long Form TFA) Reports shall be "Transferred Out" in the FA System with a comment stating that the TFA is a report only and has no evidence associated with it. A copy of the TFA report shall be included with a copy of the Laboratory Report to be returned to the Evidence Control Unit and subsequently the requesting agency.
- 5.9 Calculations See 5.7.5.
- **5.10 Uncertainty of Measurement** See the Procedure for Measurement Assurance and Drug Chemistry Technical Procedure for Balances.
- **6.0** Limitations N/A
- **7.0 Safety -** See the State Crime Laboratory Safety Manual.
- **8.0** References N/A
- 9.0 Records
  - FA System Case files
  - Clandestine Laboratory Response Form
  - Verification Review for the Destruction of Evidence
  - Yield Calculations Methamphetamine HCl from (Pseudo)ephedrine HCl

Technical Procedure for Clandestine Laboratory Analysis Drug Chemistry Section Issued by Drug Chemistry Forensic Scientist Manager

• Yield Calculations Methamphetamine HCl from (Pseudo)ephedrine Sulfate

Version 7

**Effective Date: 05/15/2015** 

10.0 Attachments - N/A

Revision History		
Effective Date	Version Number	Reason
09/17/2012	1	Original Document for conversion to ISO standards.
02/15/2013	2	<ul> <li>2.0 – Scope changed to reflect all three laboratories.</li> <li>5.5.2.5 – Updated to clarify yield calculations pertaining to (pseudo)ephedrine packaging found and identified at the scene.</li> <li>5.5.3.5 – Section added to include yield calculations pertaining to (pseudo)ephedrine collected at the scene and identified at the laboratory.</li> <li>5.6.2.2 – "and" added between the two compounds in example</li> <li>5.6.2.2.1 – Corrected "analyzed" to "analyze"</li> <li>5.6.3.3 – Added statement regarding weight if entire volume collected from crime scene.</li> <li>5.6.3.4 to 5.6.3.6 – Reformatted numbers.</li> <li>5.7.5.2.3 – Typo corrected in g/mol of Pseudoephedrine sulfate.</li> <li>5.8.2 – Phrase added to clarify "after the date the report is released."</li> </ul>
05/10/2013	3	<ul> <li>5.3 and 5.6.2.1 - Revised name of Sampling Plan from Technical to Administrative Procedure</li> <li>5.6.3.3 and 5.6.3.4 - Clarified weights and reporting required for seized liquids</li> <li>5.10 - Added references to other procedures for Uncertainty of Measurement</li> </ul>
07/31/2013	4	<ul> <li>5.8.2.1 – Updated name of Destruction Verification Form</li> <li>5.10 – Updated name of Procedure for Measurement Assurance</li> <li>5.5.2.3.2 – Deleted for</li> </ul>
11/15/2013	5	Added issuing authority to header; removed references to SBI-5.
08/29/2014	6	<b>5.7.4.1</b> – Correct typo (2400 mg, not 2440 mg) <b>5.7.5.2.3</b> – Correct typo - MW of meth HCl not PSE HCl = 185.7 g/mol
05/15/2015	7	<ul> <li>5.6.3.4.1, 5.6.3.4.1.1 – Added requirement of original volume with submission information and clarified wording as a result of using submitted information in calculation.</li> <li>5.6.3.5 – Deleted outdated wording for results.</li> </ul>

Version 7

**Effective Date: 05/15/2015**